

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
(Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council)

Chairman: Mr. Dennis L. Fish, District No. 5

The COMMITTEE ON FINANCE met on Monday, April 19, 2004, Berkeley County Office Building, 223 North Live Oak Drive, Moncks Corner, South Carolina, at 6:05 p.m.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the electronic and print media were duly notified.

PRESENT: Mr. Dennis L. Fish, Councilmember District No. 5, Chairman; Mr. Milton Farley, Councilmember District No. 1; Mr. William E. Crosby, Councilmember District No. 3; Mr. Charles E. Davis, Councilmember District No. 4; Mrs. Judy C. Mims, Councilmember District No. 6; Mr. Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., Councilmember District No. 7; Mr. Steve C. Davis, Councilmember District No. 8; Mr. James H. Rozier, Jr., Supervisor, ex officio; Mr. D. Mark Stokes, County Attorney; and Ms. Barbara Austin, Clerk to County Council. Mrs. Judith K. Spooner, Councilmember District No. 2, arrived at 6:22 p.m.

Chairman Fish called the meeting to order and asked the Committee's approval of the Minutes for the Finance Meeting held on March 15, 2004.

It was moved by Councilmember Crosby and seconded by Councilmember Farley to approve the Minutes as presented. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Item A, Mr. Darryl Bullock, Council of Governments, Re: Section 504 Grievance Procedures.

Mr. Bullock addressed the Committee and explained the requirements for the Section 504 Grievance Procedure.

It was moved by Councilmember Crosby and seconded by Councilmember Steve Davis to accept the Section 504 Grievance Procedures.

Mr. Bullock explained the County had received Community Development Block Grants in the past that funded projects in the Honey Hill, Shulerville, and Russellville areas but the County had not adopted the Section 504 Grievance Procedure. The County did conduct a self-evaluation of their building facilities and employment practices for compliance; but since that time the State had requested that the County adopt the Section 504 Grievance Procedure.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Item B, Eileen Chepenik, Trident Literacy Association Executive Director, Re: Presentation.

Ms. Chepenik, Executive Director of the Trident Literacy Association, addressed the Committee and explained that the National Assessments of Adult Literacy defined literacy as the ability to use printed and written information to function in society, to achieve one's goals, and to develop one's knowledge and potential.

Ms. Chepenik provided the Committee with the following facts:

- The population of the Tri-County Area is approximately 549,000 people.
- At least twenty-five (25) percent, one in four of the County's residents are functionally illiterate or at Level 1 literacy, the lowest measurable level.
- In Berkeley County, of adults 16 and over, twenty one percent are at Level I.
- In Dorchester County 21 percent are also at Level 1.
- In Charleston County, 25 percent are at Level 1.
- The national average is 23 percent at Level 1.
- Level 3 has been identified as the average level to be able to function successfully and be self sufficient in society.
- A person at Level 1 cannot read directions on a medicine bottle for themselves or their children.
- Currently there are about 30,000 working poor in the Tri-County area with a ninth grade education or below.
- Trident Literacy Association helped approximately 2,000 students last year increase literacy in the Tri-County area by offering instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, English as a second language, GED preparation and basic computer use.
- They have over 200 volunteers.
- There is a small fee of \$25 for registration but the fee would be waived if necessary.
- Two sites are in Berkeley County; one in the United Way Building, 325 East Main street, Moncks Corner; and the other at 509 Redbank Road in Goose Creek. More than 500 students are served in Berkeley County.

Councilmember Pinckney asked Ms. Chepenik if consideration had been given to expanding the satellite sites into the rural unincorporated areas?

Ms. Chepenik responded such options could be explored.

Ms. Chepenik stated her initial request was \$25.00 per student for the 500 students in Berkeley County and added the many measurable goals resulting in the students' participation and the changes in their lives are obvious.

Councilmember Crosby asked Ms. Chepenik to return with an update after she had an opportunity to present this information to the Berkeley County School District.

Ms. Chepenik thanked the Committee for the opportunity to speak and indicated she would leave additional information for them to review.

Chairman Fish then allowed Ashley Fortney of Nucor Steel to extend an invitation on behalf of Ladd Hall and Nucor Corporation to invite Council to their Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, April 21, 2004, 5:30 p.m. to discuss the decline in U.S. Manufacturing jobs.

Item C, Ms. Marie Wauben, Human Resources Director: Re: Grievance Committee appointments.

In the absence of Ms. Wauben, Supervisor Rozier stated two terms had expired on the Grievance Committee and Human Resources recommended Kip Pratt from the Airport, and Patty Lewis from the Magistrate's Office as an alternate. The terms are to expire April 30, 2007.

It was moved by Councilmember Crosby and seconded by Councilmember Farley to approve the appointees to the Grievance Committee. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Supervisor Rozier stated that without objection an Executive Session was needed to discuss matters relating to the discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or person regulated by a public body; and receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim; and other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege.

It was moved by Councilmember Spooner and seconded by Councilmember Crosby to go into Executive Session for the reasons stated. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

The Committee on Finance entered Executive Session at 6:26 p.m. and returned at 6:45 p.m.

Mr. Mark Stokes, County Attorney, stated the Committee on Finance entered Executive Session to discuss matters as stated in the motion; no action was taken.

Item D, Consideration prior to **First Reading** of the following:

1. An ordinance providing appropriations for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005, for Berkeley County**; to provide for levy of taxes on all taxable property in Berkeley County for all county purposes; to provide for the expenditures of said taxes and other revenues coming into the county for the fiscal year.

It was moved by Councilmember Spooner and seconded by Councilmember Pinckney to send the ordinance Re: Berkeley County's Budget to

Council for First Reading. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

2. An **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005**, for the **Devon Forest Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Devon Forest Special Tax district during the fiscal year.

It was moved by Councilmember Spooner and seconded by Councilmember Pinckney to send the ordinance Re: Devon Forest Special Tax District's Budget to Council for First Reading. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

3. An **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005**, for the **Pimlico Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Pimlico Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

It was moved by Councilmember Spooner and seconded by Councilmember Crosby to send the ordinance Re: Pimlico Special Tax District's Budget to Council for First Reading. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

4. An **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005**, for the **Sangaree Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Sangaree Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

It was moved by Councilmember Charles Davis and seconded by Councilmember Spooner to send the ordinance Re: Sangaree Special Tax District's Budget to Council for First Reading. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

5. An **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005**, for the **Tall Pines Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Tall Pines Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

It was moved by Councilmember Charles Davis and seconded by Councilmember Spooner to send the ordinance Re: Tall Pines Special Tax District's Budget to Council for First Reading. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

6. An **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005**, for the operational budget of the **Berkeley County Special**

Fire Tax District within the unincorporated portions of Berkeley County; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Special Fire Tax District during the fiscal year.

It was moved by Councilmember Crosby and seconded by Councilmember Spooner to send the ordinance Re: Berkeley County Special Fire Tax District's Budget to Council for First Reading. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Item D, Review prior to Second Reading of Bill No. 04-23, an ordinance to amend **Ordinance No. 03-06-38**, adopted June 16, 2003, to provide for **supplemental appropriations** and allocations thereof within the 2003-2004 budget for Berkeley County, and other matters relating thereto.

It was moved by Councilmember Spooner and seconded by Councilmember Charles Davis to send Bill No. 04-23 to Council for Second Reading. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Item E, REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

Committee on Justice and Public Safety, Mrs. Judy C. Mims, Chairman.

Councilmember Mims reported the Committee met on April 12.

On recommendation of the Committee, Councilmember Mims moved to approve a one-time adjustment to the Probate Judge's salary to be considered in the 2004-2005 budget. (No Second Required)

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

On recommendation of the Committee, Councilmember Mims moved to approve the request for payment of autopsies from the Coroner's Department in the amount of \$24,150 to be available as required. (No Second Required)

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

On recommendation of the Committee, Councilmember Mims moved to approve an upgrade in the Magistrate's Department from an Administrative Clerk I to an Administrative Clerk IV; seconded by Councilmember Spooner.

Chairman Fish questioned the evaluation of the position but upon clarification of the request by Judge Ava Ayers, Councilmember Mims's motion remained as presented.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Also, on recommendation of the Committee, Councilmember Mims moved to approve the request from the EMS Department in the amount of \$18,531.77 to cover the present shortfall in maintenance; an additional \$10,500 to be available as required. (No Second Required)

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee. (That concluded Ms. Mims' report.)

It was moved by Councilmember Crosby and seconded by Councilmember Mims to adjourn; The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

The Committee on Finance adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

May 17, 2004
Date Approved

FINANCE
(Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council)

Chairman: Mr. Dennis L. Fish, District No. 5

Members: Mr. Milton Farley, District No. 1
Mrs. Judith K. Spooner, District No. 2
Mr. William E. Crosby, District No. 3
Mr. Charles E. Davis, District No. 4
Mrs. Judy C. Mims, District No. 6
Mr. Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., District No. 7
Mr. Steve C. Davis, District No. 8
Mr. James H. Rozier, Jr., Supervisor, ex officio

A **meeting** of the **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**, Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council, will be held on **Monday April 19, 2004**, in the Assembly Room, Berkeley County Office Building, 223 North Live Oak Drive, Moncks Corner, South Carolina, following the meeting of the Committee on Land Use and the Committee on Community Services at **6:00 pm**.

AGENDA

EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss matters relating to the discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body and the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim and other matters covered by the attorney –client privilege.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 15, 2004

A. Mr. Darryl Bullock, Council of Governments, Re: Section 504 Grievance Procedures.

B. Ms. Eileen Chepenik, Trident Literacy Association Executive Director, Re: Presentation.

C. Ms. Marie Wauben, Human Resources Director: Re: Grievance Committee appointments

D. Consideration prior to **First Reading** of the following:

1. An **ordinance** providing appropriations for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005**, for **Berkeley County**; to provide for levy of taxes on all taxable property in Berkeley County for all county purposes; to provide for the expenditures of said taxes and other revenues coming into the county for the fiscal year

2. An **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005**, for the **Devon Forest Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Devon Forest Special Tax district during the fiscal year

3. An **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005**, for the **Pimlico Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Pimlico Special Tax District during the fiscal year

4. An **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005**, for the **Sangaree Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Sangaree Special Tax District during the fiscal year

5. An **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005**, for the **Tall Pines Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Tall Pines Special Tax District during the fiscal year

6. An **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005**, for the operational budget of the **Berkeley County Special Fire Tax District** within the unincorporated portions of Berkeley County; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Special Fire Tax District during the fiscal year

D. **Review prior to Second Reading of Bill No. 04-23**, An **ordinance** to amend Ordinance No. 03-06-38, adopted June 16, 2003, to provide for **supplemental appropriations** and allocations thereof within the 2003-2004 budget for Berkeley County; and other matters relating thereto.

E. **REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:**

1. **Committee on Justice and Public Safety**

Council Member Mrs. Judy Mims, Chairman

- a. Probate Court's Department.
- b. Coroner's Department.
- c. Magistrate's Department.
- d. EMS's Department.

April 14, 2004
S/Barbara B. Austin
Clerk of County Council